Siphoning off foreign exchange

4681. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Macleods Pharmaceuticals, Vidyut Investments, Zee Telefilms have been involved in siphoning off foreign exchange;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the probe has been ordered by CBI; and

(c) if so,what is the outcome of the prove and what action is being taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) M/s. Zee Telefilms Ltd., an authorised agent of M/s. Asia Today Ltd., Hong Kong (owner of ZEE TV) were charged under the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA), 1973 (since repealed) for collecting funds in India from ineligible exporters and non-eligible persons by way of advertisements for telecasting their products on ZEE TV Channel and remitting the foreign exchange outside India to M/s Asia Today Ltd., Hong Kong, in violation of the stipulations of the Reserve Bank of India in this regard. The case of M/s. Vidyut Investment, a subsidiary of M/s. Ranbaxy Ltd., is being investigated under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA, in connection with certain transactions relating to the stock scam. No case relating to M/s. Macleods Pharmaceuticals has been investigated by the Directorate of Enforcement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In the case of M/s. Zee Telefilms, the matter is before the adjudicating authorities and in the case of M/s. Vidyut Investments, investigations initiated under the FEMA are in progress.

Backlog vacancies in Central Revenue Control Laboratory, Pusa

4682. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) how many Chemical Assistant from Grade-II to Grade-I, Chemical Assistant Grade-I to Assistant Chemical Examiner and Assistant Chemical Examiner to Chemical Examiner were promoted during the last five years in Central Revenue Control Laboratory, Pusa, New Delhi;

(b) whether representation to SC/ST has been given to these category as per constitutional provision;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not the reasons for non filling up of the backlog vacancy of SCs/ STs and by when it is likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) During the last five years, *i.e.* 1998-99 to 2002-2003, 54 Chemical Assistants, Grade-II were promoted to the grade of Chemical Assistant Grade-I, 21 Chemical Assistant Grade I were promoted to the grade of Assistant Chemical Examiner and 4 Assistant Chemical Examiners were promoted to the grade of Chemical Examiner Grade-II. In addition, 27 Assistant Chemical Examiners were promoted, on *ad-hoc* basis, to the grade of Chemical Examiner Grade-II.

(b) to (d) Out of the 54 Chemical Assistant Grade-II who were promoted to Chemical Assistant Grade-I, 13 Officers belonged to the SC category. Vacancies for ST category could not be filled because of non-availability of eligible candidate in the feeder cadre. Similarly, in the absence of eligible candidates in the feeder cadre, no Chemical Assistant Grade-I could be promoted to the Grade of Assistant Chemical Examiner. Like-wise one post reserved for SC category in the grade of Chemical Examiner Grade-II could not be filled up on regular basis because of non-availability of eligible officer in the feeder grade. These vacancies are being carried forward to the subsequent year for promoting available eligible officers belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Generous sops to cricketers

4683. SHRI K. B. KRISHNA MURTHY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new Budget 2003 proposals bestow generous sops to our cricketers;

(b) if so, whether cricketers already earn millions by way of prize money, match fees, advertising/endorsement payments etc.; and

(c) if so, whether Government would consider withdrawing the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Funds transferred to NLCPR

4684. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total fund liable for transfer to the Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources as per Government's policy decisions from the unspent amount out